

DR. STRATON SAYS HALLS' WEALTH SHOULD NOT INFLUENCE VERDICT

'Sins of the Strong Worse Than Those Of Weak,' Is View

By REV. JOHN ROACH STRATON, D. D.

Pastor Calvary Baptist Church, New York City

(Copyright, 1926, The New York Evening GRAPHIC. All rights reserved. Reproduction prohibited.)

"Unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required."

Sisley Huddleston, in a striking article a little while ago in the Atlantic Monthly, commented upon the responsibility of the strong for the sins and wrongs of our modern society.

With scathing invective, he pictured the scenes of splendor and sensualism in the ballrooms of European hotels, in contrast with the sorrows and sufferings of a war wasted and weary world lying outside these gilded gates.

It was a true and timely emphasis. The mere gilding of vice does not change its inherently vicious nature.

Calls for Unbiased Decision

Vice is vice, whether practiced amid squalor and in the haunts of shame or amid the perfume and glitter of marble mansions.

It is not passing judgment in advance of the verdict of judge and jury in a particular case to say that the wealth or the social standing of those who are accused should not influence, even to a feather's weight, either public opinion or the operations of justice.

Indeed, there is a teaching of Scripture which finds an echo in the higher reaches of the human soul, to the effect that the wrongdoing of the strong is more reprehensible than the transgressions of the weak, and that to sin against the Light is the worst of all sin and deserves, therefore, the deeper damnation.

Sins of the Strong

So Scripture says, "to him who knoweth to do good and doeth it not, to him it is sin."

And again it is written:—

"And that servant, which knew his Lord's will and prepared not himself, neither did according to His will, shall be beaten with many stripes. But he that knew not and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few stripes."

To Meet Soon



MRS. FRANCES HALL



MRS. JANE GIBSON

stripes. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required; and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more." (Luke 12:47-48.)

The first half of this terrible Hall-Mills tragedy, let us remember, came about through the transgressions of the strong.

Enlightenment, culture and high social standing in the community should all be restraining influences over unholy passion and illicit desire; and public position, especially when it lies in the religious realm, should in itself inculcate reserve powers and the ability to turn away from wrong.

But when such things, instead of being used as a bulwark for the

defense of virtue and a shield to turn aside the shafts of temptation from a weaker heart, are really used as a cloak for iniquity and inducements for seducing the susceptible, then surely the guilt is the more contemptible and damnation the more deserved.

This Hall-Mills case should bring home to the stronger elements of our society a profound sense of responsibility to lead the weaker and less resourceful elements in paths of strength and righteousness, rather than to capitalize their very inexperience and defenselessness for their own sordid and selfish ends!

Don't Miss Dr. Stratton's startling analysis of the Hall-Mills trial every day exclusively in The GRAPHIC.

Murder Trial Bill Is Now Worrying Somerset County

Somerset County, N. J., citizens are beginning to worry over the bills for the Hall-Mills murder trial.

The investigation of four years ago, without indictments or a trial, cost \$8,500, and estimates by county officials, who admit they do not yet know the exact expenses for the current investigation place them between \$40,000 and \$70,000.

Bills totaling \$1,000 have already been received, according to William S. Woodruff, secretary of freeholders. He expressed the opinion that the cost of the present investigation and trial would probably amount to five times that of the first.

Father, 5 Tots Burn in Home

CINCINNATI, O., Nov. 10 (By U. P.).—Everett Florer and five of his children burned to death during the night in a fire which destroyed their home at Willow Grove, Ky., 35 miles from here, word received here today said.

The mother of the family escaped.

The children were: Eugene, 16; Jessie, 13; Virgil, 10; Hollie 8 and Ruth, 5.

MOTHER OF 3 JAILED 3 MONTHS FOR \$3 THEFT

BOSTON, Nov. 10 (By U. P.).—A mother of three children faced a three-month jail sentence here today for a \$3 theft.

This sentence was imposed on Mrs. Mary Madden of Auburndale, convicted on a charge of stealing \$3 from the purse of Mrs. Georgia Peaslee of Arlington.

'MAY HEAR 'PIG WOMAN' FRIDAY

Mrs. Jane Gibson, the "pig woman" whose testimony Senator Simpson, special prosecutor in the Hall-Mills murder trial, most depends on, may take the witness stand either Friday or Saturday.

Just when the trial was about to begin at Somerville, Mrs. Gibson took sick and was taken to the Jersey City Hospital, where she still is a patient. Her condition, according to doctors, has improved, although it was stated that the date of her release could not be determined as yet.

Simpson has declared that if Mrs. Gibson says she feels able to attend

the trial he will have her go on the stand, regardless of the advice of physicians.

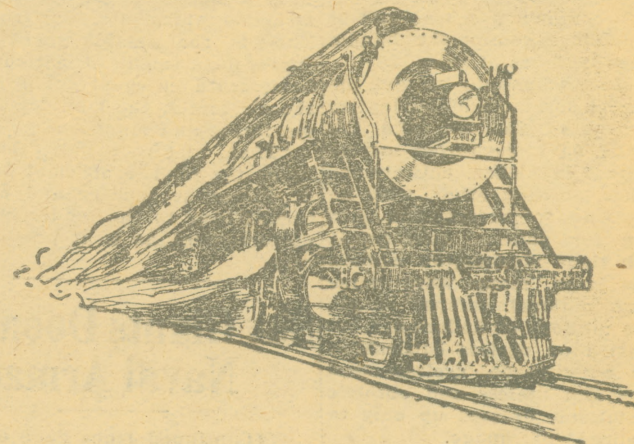
The hospital statement reads:—"The physicians in attendance upon Mrs. Jane Gibson examined her and, as a result, the diagnosis of yesterday was confirmed. Her general condition is simply improved."

"At the present time her stay in the hospital is indeterminate."

the clean comfortable way to

California

VIA GLACIER NATIONAL PARK



over 1200 miles behind giant oil burning locomotives. The longest cinderless mileage of any railway in the Northwest.

NEW ORIENTAL LIMITED

to California, Spokane, Portland, Seattle, Tacoma. Free side trip to Vancouver or Victoria; easy, low-level route across the Continent following the courses of ten great rivers. The Oriental Limited, all-steel and entirely new from headlight to observation platform, awaits you every night (11 P.M.) at Chicago's New Union Station. DeLuxe Service—No Extra Fare.

GREAT NORTHERN

a dependable railway

M. M. Hubbert, General Eastern Passenger Agent, Great Northern Railway, 595 Fifth Ave. at 48th St., New York, N. Y. Telephone Murray Hill 1666

Please send me cost and other information about a California trip via Great Northern.

Name _____

Address _____

Mail coupon or phone



WHY I AM WILLING TO WRITE MY COMMENTS ON THIS SAD AND SHOCKING TRAGEDY



JOHN ROACH STRATON, D. D.

When the invitation from The GRAPHIC to write on the Hall-Mills case came to me through my friend, the Rev. Dr. Ralph Welles Keeler, pastor of the Crawford Memorial Church of New York and religious news editor of The GRAPHIC, I was given the assurance that The GRAPHIC would print my comments precisely as I wrote them, and that the paper desired to do a service for God and man by opening its columns for lessons in right living and straight thinking, in the light of this terrible tragedy, which, because of the prominence of those connected with it and the deplorable conditions that brought it forth, has centered the grieved and amazed attention of the whole world.

JOHN ROACH STRATON.